

Message Text

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ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03

CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 STR-04 CEA-01 DHA-02

ACDA-05 /103 W

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R 261241Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY MBABANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9208

INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY MASERU

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L MBABANE 0296

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, PFOR, US, WZ

SUBJECT: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS - SWAZILAND

REF: A. STATE 37591, B. STATE 37592, C. MBABANE 0022

D. 75 USUN 6844

FOLLOWING ARE REPLIES TO QUESTIONS POSED IN PARA 7, REF A:

A. SWAZILAND'S TWO PRIMARY MULTILATERAL INTERESTS AND OBJECTIVES ARE THE ELIMINATION OF COLONIALISM AND RACISM IN SOUTHERN AFRICA BY PEACEFUL MEANS AND THE CONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF SWAZILAND. IT OPPOSES FOREIGN MILITARY INTERVENTION IN AFRICA AND SUPPORTS EVOLUTION TOWARDS MAJORITY RULE.

SWAZILAND KNOWS IT IS A SMALL, WEAK COUNTRY, HEAVILY DEPENDENT ECONOMICALLY ON SOUTH AFRICA. IT DOES NOT WISH OR EXPECT TO PLAY A LEADING ROLE IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS; IT RARELY PROMOTES THE CANDIDACY OF ITS REPS FOR IMPORTANT POSITIONS OR TAKES INDEPENDENT
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POLICY INITIATIVES.

TO HELP PROMOTE ITS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT, SWAZILAND IS AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF THE UN FAMILY OF ORGANIZATIONS, THE LOME CONVENTION AND THE IBRD AND IS EAGERLY SEEKING ASSISTANCE FROM THESE ORGANIZATIONS AS WELL AS THE AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK, THE EEC AND BILATERAL DONORS.

B. GOS IS INFLUENCED BY POSITIONS TAKEN ON MULTILATERAL ISSUES BY OTHER OAU MEMBERS BUT IS CAPABLE OF TAKING AN INDEPENDENT STAND. FOR EXAMPLE, GOS STILL MAINTAINS DIP RELATIONS WITH ROC AND ISRAEL, VOTED AGAINST ZIONISM/RACISM RESOLUTION AT 30TH UNGA AND WITH US ON KOREAN RESOLUTIONS, DESPITE HEAVY PRESSURE, INCLUDING PHYSICAL THREATS BY THE NORTH KOREANS. GOS WILL PROBABLY CONTINUE TO SHOW SUCH INDEPENDENCE AS LONG AS PRESENT REGIME, HEADED BY KING SOBHUZA, REMAINS IN POWER. AS A RULE, GOS NEITHER HAS NOR TRIES TO EXERT INFLUENCE ON OTHER COUNTRIES.

C. GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS TO GOS DELS ARE PREPARED IN ADVANCE OF ALL CONTINGENCIES. EFFECTIVE CONTROL DURING MEETINGS IS OFTEN LIMITED BY COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS. IN SOME CASES, GOS DELS, PARTICULARLY THOSE HEADED BY MINISTERS, HAVE BEEN KNOWN TO FREE-WHEEL; HOWEVER, GOSNDEL AT 30TH UNGA APPARENTLY CONSULTED CLOSELY WITH DEPT. OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND WAS ADEQUATELY INSTRUCTED ON KEY VOTES.

D. AS INDICATED ABOVE, GOS DELEGATIONS HEADED BY MINISTERS TEND TO ACT MORE INDEPENDENTLY THAN OTHERS. MINISTER OF INDUSTRY, MINES AND TOURISM, S.S. NXUMALO, PARTICULARLY WHEN HE ATTENDS ECONOMIC CONFERENCES, IS THE MOST DRAMATIC EXAMPLE. SWAZI PERM REP TO UN, NORMAN MALINGA, DOES NOT HAVE AN INDEPENDENT POWER BASE AND IS RESPONSIVE TO MBABANE. SWAZI DELS TO OTHER INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS ARE USUALLY COMPOSED OF SENIOR OFFICIALS WHO FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS.

E. GOS IS RESPONSIVE TO U.S. REPRESENTATIONS ON MULTILATERAL ISSUES AND ACCEPTS THE CONCEPT THAT SUCH REPRESENTATIONS ARE A BASIC PART OF OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS. ALTHOUGH GOS RARELY SOLICITS OUR SUPPORT ON MULTI-LATEVVL MATTERS, IT DOES SEEK BILATERAL AID. (SEE REF D REPORTING GOS PERM REP MALINGA'S REQUEST TO AMBASSADOR MOYNIHAN FOR ADDITIONAL U.S. INVESTMENT IN SWAZILAND AND U.S. EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE.) ALTHOUGH THE GOS DOES NOT NECESSARILY REGARD INCREASED U.S. AID AS THE PRICE FOR ITS SUPPORT, SINCE GOS GEUINELY BELIEVES

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THAT OUR INTERESTS CONCIDE ON MANY INTERNATIONAL ISSUES, CONTINUED GOS SUPPORT CAN ONLY BE ASSURED BY A U.S. POLICY THAT IS RESPONSIVE TO ITS SECURITY AND DEVELOPMENTAL NEEDS. WITH IDEOLOGICALLY HOSTILE MOZAMBIQUE ON ITS EASTERN FRONTIER, SWAZILAND WILL COME UNDER INCREASING PRESSURE TO ADOPT A MORE RADICAL FOREIGN POLICY UNLESS SOMETHING CAN BE DONE TO REDRESS THE BLANCE. LANE

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